

Message Text

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62

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 INR-10 LAB-06

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FM AMEMBASSY OSLO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC8327

INFO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY BONN

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

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EO 11652 N/A

TAGS: ELAB, NO

SUBJECT: NEW NORWEGIAN SECRETARY OF NORDIC TRADE UNION COUNCIL

REF: STOCKHOLM 2100

1. (BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED) RICHARD TRAEELNES OF THE NORWEGIAN TRADE UNION FEDERATION (LO), WAS NAMED LAST WEEK TO SUCCEED JOHN SVENNIGSEN OF DENMARK AS SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE NORDIC TRADE UNION COUNCIL. TRAEELNES IS 41 OR 42 YEARS OLD. HE WAS A JOURNALIST FOR THE LOCAL LABOR PARTY NEWSPAPER AT NORWAY'S STEEL MILL TOWN, MO-I-RANA, UNTIL 1966, THEN MOVED TO LO'S INTERNAL NEWSPAPER, FRI FAGBEVEGELOE UNTIL 1968. SINCE 1968 HE HAS BEEN LO INFORMATION SECRETARY, ASSISTING LO'S INFORMATION CHIEF PER HARALDSEN AND DIRECTING A PUBLICITY DRIVE TO BOOST MEMBERSHIP.

2. (BEGIN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE) COMMENT: TRAEELNES,
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LONG CONSIDERED BY MANY AS ONE OF THE BRIGHTEST YOUNG MEN

IN LO, REPORTEDLY SUFFERED AN ILLNESS, EVIDENTLY A STOMACH
PROBLEM, WHICH LEFT HIM RATHER THIN AND WEAK FOR QUITE SOME
TIME, LIMITING HIS ACTIVITIES AND CHANCES FOR ADVANCEMENT.
THIS NEW APPOINTMENT WOULD INDICATE THAT HE HAD NOW FULLY
RECOVERED. THE EMBASSY'S LABOR SPECIALIST WHO HAS LONG KNOWN
TRAEKNES CONSIDERS HIM INTELLIGENT, ENERGETIC AND HELPFUL
MEMBER OF THE PRO-WESTERN "SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC" MAINSTREAM
OF NORWAY'S LABOR GOVERNMENT.
BYRNE

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To: STATE
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